



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:**

**Application No.:** 10/753,453                      **Examiner:** CHAPMAN, Jeanette

**Filing Date:** January 9, 2004                      **Art Unit:** 3635

**First Inventor:** Bernard P. J. THIERS                      **Customer No.:** 23364

**Attorney No.:** THIE3009/JEK/JJC                      **Confirm. No.:** 8707

**For:** **FLOORING COVERING, FLOOR PANEL AND SET OF  
FLOOR PANELS FOR FORMING SUCH FLOOR  
COVERING, AND METHODS FOR THE PACKAGING AND  
MANUFACTURING OF SUCH FLOOR PANELS**

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**  
**OF DECEMBER 4, 2006**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This is responsive to the Office action dated December 4, 2006 in the above application wherein claims 24-33 were finally rejected. In view of the following amendment and remarks, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

A petition to extend the period for reply by one month is included herewith.

A Request for Continued Examination is filed herewith effectively removing the finality of the rejection of the claims.

**AMENDMENT**

**In the Claims**

The claims are amended as shown on the following pages under the heading AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS. The list shows the status of all claims presently in the application and is intended to supersede all prior versions of the claims in the application. Any cancellation of claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer.